NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND GARDENER'S JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (Agricultural Warehouse.)—T. G. FESSENDEN, EDITOR.

VOL. XV. BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 12, 1837. NO. 40.

AGRICULTURAL.

(From the N. H. Patriot.)

Extract from an *Address*, read before the Merrimack County Agricultural Society, at their annual Cattle Show and Fair, holden at Concord, N. H., Oct. 1836, by Cyrus Barton.

INDIAN CORN. RIDGING.

There is a mode of culture in practice in some parts of the State, which, in my opinion, is far preferable to that generally practiced in this county. Preferable, because more than one half of the labor of ploughing and hoeing is saved, and at the same time a better crop is obtained. The mode is this: When a piece of mowing or pasture land is to be broken up in the spring for corn, the first thing is to spread the manure evenly over the whole surface. The ground is next thrown into *ridges*, by means of a plough with double mould-boards and shares,—so that a furrow is turned up on each side of the plough as it passes along. Instead of going round, or "marking off a land," as it is termed, the plough returns on the same side, within 20 or 24 inches of the first furrow. You then have a ridge—the edges of the two furrows coming nearly in contact, the grass is covered up, and all the manure which was spread over the space occupied, is thrown within the ridge. A man follows with his hoe to mend up the turf where it breaks and falls back, and to fill up the interstices between the edges of the turf with soil from the furrow.

As the ground only requires to be ploughed to the depth of about four or five inches, two yoke of oxen will easily plough two acres and a half in a day, and which, where the ground is tolerably smooth and free from stone, the man who follows will dress and render fit for planting in the same time—or, as is frequently practised, the corn is dropped and planted, at the same time the ridges are dressed; and which is no doubt the better way.

Here then is a vast saving of labor; for I believe that ploughing one acre, by the present mode, is a good day's work; and on the intervale lands in this town, the services of not less than 3 yoke of cattle are required. But this is not all—for the ground then has to be harrowed, cross-ploughed, and furrowed out for planting. So that the difference in labor, of preparing grass-land for a corn crop, is as three to one in favor of ridging.

But this is not the only advantage. The ground being ploughed at the very time of planting, after the grass had become green, the decomposition of the turf and manure, thrown together within the ridge, causes fermentation to take place, the genial warmth of which causes the corn rapidly to spring up, and come forward with a vigorous and healthy growth, and with the whole of the manure confined within range of its roots, subject neither to evaporation or to be washed away by rains, the corn usually comes to maturity some eight or ten days earlier, than when treated in a different manner.

This mode of ridging has long been practised in Sullivan County. More than twenty years ago, before I left the farm for the more arduous and severe labors of the workshop, I assisted in dressing these ridges. The improved plough was at that time unknown, and the ridges were then made by passing the common plough through both ways in the same furrow. It is the only mode practised in some of the country towns of that county now, whether the surface be rough or smooth, or the ground wet or dry, when a crop of corn is to be taken from grass land; and I am happy to say that the experiment has been tried here, during the present season, with the most satisfactory results.

At the suggestion of Paul Jacobs, Esq., who last year represented the town of Croydon in the Legislature, and who is one of the most extensive and best farmers in Sullivan County, Mr William Low of this town was induced to send for one of the improved ploughs for ridging; and with which he ridged several acres on the intervale, which he planted with corn, and from which he has realized a tolerable crop, better than most of his neighbors—though not so good as the average of a good year. Mr Robert Eastman of this town prepared a few acres of his ground in the same manner, and with a like result. This plough may also be used to great advantage in the cultivation of potatoes, two acres and a half of which may be ploughed and planted in a day, with the assistance of two persons to drop the seed as the ground is ploughed, and which is covered by the ploughing and dressing the ridges.

After the crop has been taken from ground prepared in this manner, the plough is run through the ridges lengthwise, either in fall or spring, and the soil prepared for the succeeding crop.

If, then, as has been fully demonstrated, a saving of one half if not two thirds of the labor of breaking up grass land and preparing it for a corn crop, can be realized by this mode of culture, and at the same time a better crop produced, it is certainly worthy the attention of the farmers of this county, who I am satisfied, will give to the subject all the consideration which its importance demands.

(From the Farmer's Register.)

ON THE ABUSE
And proper treatment of Work horses.

I was much pleased with a communication signed W., from Charlotte, in the February No. of your useful and valuable journal, on the feeding of work-horses. In no other portion of the globe, where that invaluable animal, the horse, is domesticated, is he more esteemed, more lavishly fed, and yet at the same time, more cruelly and shamefully neglected, than in Virginia, east of the Blue Ridge, and I am always pleased to see any effort made to meliorate the condition of this faithful and steadfast friend of man. It has been frequently a matter of astonishment to me, that the Virginians, with their proverbial fondness for the horse, (to say nothing of his acknowledged and indispensable value) should always have been, and continue to be culpably ignorant or negligent in what I will call horse-husbandry. Nine men out of ten, pay no kind of regard either to his comfort or his nature. He is treated more as a machine made of wood or iron, than as a living being. In winter he is exposed in wretched hovels, to the "peltings of the pitiless storm," and in summer he is imprisoned in the same miserable goals, to inhale the noxious stench and *malaria*, arising from the putrescent exerement and filth of his stall. After a hard day's work, or ride, the unthinking (not to say unfeeling) owner (or brute) alights from the back of this faithful and jaded friend, and instead of going to his stall—in person attending to his food—seeing that it is neither too much nor too little, and of the right sort, and causing his stiffened joints to be rubbed, and the perspiration and dust to be curried from his skin and a soft bed thrown down, upon which the wearied creature may repose and resuscitate himself for the morrow's labor, as common gratitude and *interest* both would suggest, this submissive and uncomplaining servant is coldly consigned over to the tender mercies of the slave; and too frequently, after a day perhaps of unprecedented labor, spends a night of corresponding inquietude and misery. No wonder then, that we so frequently see such woe-begone and miserable looking jades tottering along in our teams. No wonder that the horse is becoming short-lived, and as many farmers think unworthy of raising; and no wonder that that long-eared, stubborn, ill-contrived wretch, that thrives upon beating, the mule, is so fast succeeding and shoving out this noble animal. Your correspondent has well observed, "that the master's attention is half feed." Yes, sir, in this word *attention* is comprised, the whole wisdom of horse management; and this necessary attention needs no phrenological bump for its development; neither need a man "like a poet or a painter, be born with it,"—for it is so simple that any man, be he white or black, may learn it, or be made to learn it. Were I asked what is the best method for keeping horses in good order? without stopping even to glance at what kind of food they ate, I should promptly answer *attention*. This is the whole and only secret; for whilst some kinds of food are decidedly better and cheaper than others, yet with attention a healthy horse will thrive on *any* food that he will eat. In the first place, attend to your stable, make it a comfortable house, let it keep out the rain and ward off the winter winds. In summer when the weather is fair and hot, when you take out of harness at night, feed your horses in a lot adjoining the stable (leaving the stable door open in case of rain)—for it is too bad after a horse has labored hard all day, to cage him up in a narrow cell all night; turn him into a lot and let him wallow and walk about and enjoy the cool breezes. At least

once a week (for the horse is a cleanly animal) clean out your stalls and throw the litter into your farm-pen. You will add greatly to your stock of year's manure, and infinitely to the health and comfort of your horse. As often as you clean out your stalls (or oftener) make your ostler throw an armful of straw or leaves into each. Water regularly. Bleed not unfrequently. As often as you think of it, if it is once a day, throw a small quantity of salt into the trough of each horse; and finally, curry and rub in the morning, at noon, and at night; and whatever you may feed on, the increased strength and ability of your horse will amply compensate you for all trouble; and if a *blooded* horse, will be worth two of the best mules that ever were captured in Sante Fe. But the trouble (this great enemy to the happiness of the horse) although it seems formidable at a distance, when you approach, it dissipates to nothing. Get into the habit *yourself* of attending to the comfort of your horse, and get your ostler or head ploughman into the habit, and he will soon take all the trouble off of your hands. Let your ostler find out that you are *determined* to have your horses attended to—that you can, at a glance, tell whether they have been rubbed, curried, &c. &c., as they should have been, and you will have no further trouble than to walk to your stable night and morning and look in. As soon as you *convince* him that this thing shall be done, he will do it; for one kind of work is the same thing to a slave as another—and he will do or not do this or any other work *well* as the master permits him.

Of the different kinds of food used for horses, my experience tells me, that what is generally in this section of the country called "chopping," that is, cut-straw and meal of any kind mixed together, is decidedly the cheapest, and best general food. It is far preferable to corn and fodder in the usual way. With the horse, as with all other animals, an occasional change is of great service. Our neighbors over the Blue Ridge, whose horses are always fat, make their "chopping" of rye-straw and rye-meal; but we, on this side, who adopt this mode of feeding at all, do not much care what kind of straw or meal we use.—For the last three months, I have been feeding 6 horses on 'ship stuff,' and corn meal, (half and half) and cut *wheat* straw—occasionally alternating with cut *shucks*; and I find it, if not the best certainly as good, and cheaper than any other diet I have ever used. By this method, when they are not at work (when at work, I give them corn and fodder at 12 o'clock) my horses cost me a bushel of ship-stuff and a bushel of corn meal per month; the straw I count as nothing. My ship-stuff cost me two shillings per bushel. It is frequently bought at 25 cents. I have not used one pound of blade fodder, and calculate by the saving, to sell fodder to twice the amount I paid for the ship-stuff; and my horses are as fat, or fatter than I ever had them in the winter. After clover comes in, I use little or no fodder—but feed on green or half-cured clover, and but little else; for a horse will frequently leave untouched the corn in his trough, if you fill up his rack with enough green clover to keep him going all night. I cut the clover in the morning, and let it partially *wilt* in the field till night, on which I feed at night, and the ensuing day. Were it not so amazingly convenient to toss ten ears of corn and a bundle of fodder to a horse, I am sure I should never give a grain of corn in the natural state as long as I live. It is a heating, indifferent food—and convenience and the dread of a very little trouble, I am convinced, are the causes which induce the great mass of farmers to persist in it — for whether we consult economy, or the welfare of the horse, we should certainly abandon it. I give my horses a quart of meal and ship-stuff a head, mixed up in half a bushel of cut-straw at a feed, in a square box, made for the purpose, holding fifteen bushels. I mix the corn-meal and ship-stuff together, and at each mixing I crumble up three or four bundles of lug tobacco and mix along with it. This answers two valuable purposes; it neutralizes that predisposition to costiveness, (and consequently colic) common to horses in the winter season, and which prevents "Cuffee" from robbing the troughs, which, whether it be a part and parcel of his very nature, or from a principle of *lex talionis*, (to wrong the master because he considers himself wronged,) he will be sure to do unless you by some means prevent him, even tho' you were to give him a bushel of meal and a ham of bacon a day.

The horse is a noble, generous, ill-used animal. He ministers to man's pleasures and wants. In peace or in war, for work or for fun, he is the same docile, subservient, willing, obedient friend,—and if, Mr Editor, these hasty lines and imperfect description of what I have found to be an economical and healthful diet, can be of any service, either to the "gallant steed," or to the "galled jade," he is welcome to the half hour I have devoted to it. R. C.

THE FOOD OF MAN.—The Genesee Farmer gives this brief summary of the native countries of our most familiar plants:

The potato is a native of South America, and is still found wild in Chili, Peru, and Monte Video. In its native state, the root is small and bitter. The first mention of it by European writers is in 1588. It is now spread over the world.—Wheat and rye originated in Tartary and Siberia where they are still indigenous. The only country where the oat is found wild, is in Abyssinia, and thence may be considered a native. Maize or Indian corn is a native of Mexico, and was unknown in Europe until after the discoveries of Columbus. The bread fruit tree is a native of the South Sea islands, particularly Otaheite. Tea is found a native no where except in China and Japan, from which country the world is supplied. The cocoa nut is a native of most equinoctial countries, and is one of the most valuable trees, as food, clothing and shelter are afforded by it.—Coffee is a native of Arabia Felix, but is now spread into both the East and West Indies. The best coffee is brought from Mocha, in Arabia, whence about fourteen millions of pounds, are annually exported. St Domingo furnishes from sixty to seventy millions of pounds yearly. All the varieties of the apple are derived from the crab apple which is found native in most parts of the world.

The peach is derived from Persia, where it still grows in a native state, small, bitter and with poisonous qualities. Tobacco is a native of Mexico and South America, and lately one species has been found in New Holland. Tobacco was first introduced into England from North Carolina in 1586, by Walter Raleigh. Asparagus was brought from Asia; cabbage and lettuce from Holland; horse-radish from China; rice from Ethiopia; beans from the East Indies; onions and garlic are natives of various places both Asia and Africa.—The sugar cane is a native of China, and the art of making sugar from it has been practised from the remotest antiquity.

WARMING HOUSES BY MEANS OF HEATED WATER.—If fire be applied for a sufficient length of time to the lowest part of a vessel containing liquid, the whole of the liquid, however remote it may be from the fire, will, as it is well known, ultimately become heated; for the water occupying the lowest strata, will continually ascend by its increased levity, till the entire mass receives the highest temperature of which it is capable.—An apparatus for the warming of houses, is constructed upon this principle. A small metal boiler, made water tight, is placed upon a fire in the lowest part of the building. A tube proceeds from this vessel, and is carried through all the apartments required to be heated, passing along the walls in any convenient direction. The tubes and boiler are completely filled with water. A fire is kept lighted under the boiler so as to heat the water it contains. As this becomes lighter by increased temperature, it ascends through the tubes and is replaced by the colder water descending; and this continues until the water in all the tubes is raised to the boiling point; the metal of the tubes becomes ultimately heated to the temperature of boiling water, and imparts an increased temperature to the air which surrounds them.—The same tubes, being furnished in proper places with cocks, will supply hot water for baths and other domestic purposes in every part of the building.

LARGE CROPS.—The Skowhegan [Me.] Sentinel boasts of a farmer in Penobscot County having raised 88 bushels and 3 pecks of wheat on 2 acres and 142 rods of ground; which has been beaten "all hollow" by Capt. A. Bowles of Lisbon, in this county, who raised the last season 110 bushels on three acres of stony upland, being almost 37 bushels per acre. In the same neighborhood, Mr Asahel Garnsey raised a field of oats which yielded more than 80 bushels to the acre, or 76 bushels on an average of five acres together without having been manured for the last seven years.—*Haverhill (N. H.) Repub.*

CHINESE CARVING.—In carving wood and ivory and other substances, the Chinese have no rivals. We cannot approach them in their ivory work-baskets, fans and other articles; no European artist, we believe, has ever attempted to cut out from one solid ball of ivory, seven or eight interior ones, each separate from the rest, and as beautifully carved as the exterior one. These are all cut by the means of the several circular holes that are, in the first instance, bored through the solid ball.—*Quart. Review.*

CARE OF POULTRY.—The agriculturalist, Arthur Young, says "the poultry house should contain an apartment for the general stock to roost in, another for setting, a third for fattening, and a fourth for food. If the scale is larger, there should be a fifth for plucking and keeping feathers. If a woman is kept purposely to attend them, she would have her cottage contiguous, that the smoke of her chimney may play upon the roosting and setting rooms."

ROTATION OF CROPS, POTATOES AND CORN.

Rotation of crops, is certainly among the most valuable of the modern improvements in agriculture. The scientific researches of many farmers have enabled them to discover some of the principles of vegetation, formerly but little understood. And it is believed that they will generally soon be fully convinced by experiment of the great benefits to be derived from rotation of crops. The different kinds of vegetables require nutriment peculiar to each class, and by planting the same kind on the same soil for a number of years in succession, the vegetables or plants degenerate for the want of their peculiar aliment; or as the common expression is, the soil becomes exhausted. It is therefore conceded to be an injudicious practice to cultivate the same crop, upon the same soil, for even two years in succession.

The same remark is applicable in horticulture; although a plentiful supply of manure annually, may afford some remedy for a previously exhausted soil.

By a judicious succession of crops, and the frequent use of that most important instrument to farmers, the plough, the fertility of the soil may be maintained. So many valuable essays have of late been published upon this subject, that we will not extend our remarks; but beg leave to refer to that of J. Hamilton Couper, republished in the Northern Farmer of 9th March 1833, as containing much valuable information, and as being worthy of an attentive perusal. Connected with this subject is the adaptation of the different soils to the various kinds of plants. Many skilful farmers acquire some practical knowledge of this subject, without understanding its true principles. Indeed, these principles cannot be well understood without the aid of the science of Chemistry. Chemical Science is indispensable to the Physician; but it falls not exclusively within his province. The practical farmer will find it of vast service in his pursuit. Its study ought therefore to be encouraged.

By ascertaining the food which different kinds of vegetables require, and the nutritious qualities of the various soils, the agriculturist is enabled to decide how he can, generally, produce the largest crops, with the least labor and expense.

He cannot have sufficient foresight to guard against unpropitious seasons; but acting upon enlightened principles and correct theories, his prospects of a good harvest will seldom be cut off. Our present object is to submit a few remarks upon two of our most essential agricultural products, potatoes and corn.

In this section we raise no vegetable of greater profit or more general use than the potato.— And its annual cousumption seeems to be yet on the increase. We learn from aged persons, that some fifty or sixty years ago, ten or fifteen bushels of potatoes were considered as a large crop for each farmer; and at that period, it was as uncommon for a slaughtered swine to weigh 250 lbs. as it now is, to weigh seven or eight hundred — Now, a thousand bushels or even fifteen hundred, is not an uncommon crop, upon a farm of one hundred and fifty or two hundred acres.

It has been believed by many, that high, sandy, or gravelly soils are best adapted to the growth of potatoes. But the modern theory, proved by experiment, is, that a low, cold bottom, or clay-pan is preferable. I have for several years cultivated this vegetable upon a low, level, clay-pan, taking care to have proper drains in case of heavy rains; and find that it not only yields largely, but that the quality or flavor of the potato is superior to that of those produced on high, sandy soils. A cold bottom is more congenial to them. And it is generally known, that in a cold, wet season, they flourish better, than in a very warm and dry one. But when planted in low lands, the drains should always be kept open, to prevent overflowing.

It is said that in some pars of Ireland, famous for excellent potatoes, the potatoes are planted in low, and boggy lands, in beds, between which a ditch or drain is cut; and that the mud or most nutritious portion of the soil which gradually collects in these ditches, is taken up to cover the potatoes. The practice, which many farmers are adopting, of laying out their low and marshy lands into beds rising in the centre, of four or five rods in width, with intervening drains, running towards a common outlet, will prove highly beneficial; and when there shall be a great increase of population, and the value of our lands shall be greatly enhanced, this practice will be adopted by all good farmers. It will then be admitted by all, that our valleys, and swamps contain the most fertile soil. In these, have been collecting for ages, decomposed vegetable matter, which constitutes the deep black soil. This kind of soil conveyed on to high sandy barren land, with a mixture of animal manure, will convert the latter into fruitful fields. And the fertility of the low land is increased by spreading upon its surface, loose sand or gravel from the hills.

The old practice of making the potato hill in an oval form or the shape of a sugar loaf, is very censurable. The same remark is applicable to the corn hill. Because, hills so formed, do not absorb so much moisture, when the rain deseends, as hills flat at the top.

It is believed that a former practice of planting small potatoes, is now universally condemned. But many are yet of opinion, that it is as judicious to plant cut potatoes, or slips, or the eyes, as whole potatoes. This practice is contrary to the course of nature. Nature is always right, in all her operations. The Farmer should take nature for his great and unerring guide.— Hundreds of various theories have been published upon this important point. The result of our observations and reflections, respecting it, is, that it is always best to plant the best potatoes whole, except those containing too many eyes, of unusually large size. The latter may be divided. I raised a potato, perfectly sound, of an oval form, weighing two and a half pounds. This I cut into twelve pieces, which from twelve hills, yielded two bushels. If slips are planted, the plants or sprouts come up more slender and feeble. In favorable seasons, they may often look very well, but not so well as those from the whole potato. Care should be taken to prevent the growth of too many sprouts or stalks. Four or five in a common hill are sufficient. The size of the potato depends very much upon the number of stalks, and the size as well as richness of the hill. Potatoes degenerate by means of an improper mode of cultivation, and not from the climate. This vegetable of inestimable value contributes most to the health, growth and fatness of cattle, after being boiled, or steamed. It ought never to be given to swine in a raw state, unless, possibly, in the warmest season of the year, after being partially dried.

The common practice of mutilating corn stalks, or "topping corn," before the ear has come to maturity, ought to be condemned. It may be difficult to account for the origin of so singular a practice. But we trust that its termination will not be at a day far distant. It stands opposed to reason and philosophy. But our suggestions upon this important subject must be deferred until a more convenient time.

W. CLAGGETT.

Portsmoth, February 19.

Mr. Grund's New Work on Americans.

AMERICAN BOYS.

An American of ten or twelve years of age, is as much of a young man as an European at sixteen; and when arrived at that age, he is as useful in business, and as much to be relied on, as a German at 24, or a Frenchman at 50. Something similar to it may also be found in England: but neither climate nor education promote it to the same extent as in America. From the earliest period of his life a young American is accustomed to rely upon himself as the principal artificer af his fortune. Whatever he learns or studies is with a view to future application, and the moment he leaves school he immerses into active life. His reputation, from the time he is able to think, is the object of his most anxious care, as it must affect his future standing in society, and increase the sphere of his usefulness.

AMERICAN LOVE OF OCCUPATION.

There is probably no people on earth with whom business constitutes pleasure, and industry, amusement, in an equal degree with the inhabitants of the United States of America. Active occupation is not only the principal source of their happiness, and the foundation of their national greatness, but they are absolutely wretched without it, and instead of the "dolce far mente," know but the horrors of idleness. Business is the very soul of an American; he pursues it, not as a means of procuring for himself and his family the necessary comforts of life, but as the fountain of all human felicity. From the earliest hour in the morning until late at night, the streets are thronged by men of all trades and professions, each following his vocation like a *perpetuum mobile*, as if he never dreamed of a cessation from labor, or the possibility of becoming fatigued. Neither is this hurry of business confined to the large cities — it communicates itself to every village and hamlet, and extends to and penetrates the western forests. It is as if all America were but one gigantic workshop, over the entrance of which there is the blazing inscription, "*No admittance here except on business.*"

"Meadow Land," sold last week in Northampton, according to the Courier, at prices almost unexampled in that town. Four acres in Old Rainbow, which is overflowed by the Connecticut river freshets, leaving a luxurious vegetable deposite, sold for $193 per acre. One acre sold at $169. Three acres at $161 per acre. Seven at $153 each. Three and a quarter acres in Venture's fields, at $136 per acre. Four and a half acres on middle Meadow Hill, at $117 per acre. Two and a half acres, at $125 for each acre.

The ancient elm in Woodbridge N. J. fronting the "Elm Tree Tavern," from its decayed state, has been cut down; the trunk was hollow and measured 32 feet in circumference, capable of accommodating 15 men standing upright within. One limb measured 15 feet in circumference. About half a barrel of honey, of exquisite quality and flavor, was found in the tree.

Oil.—The oil of Indian corn is used in Cincinnati as a substitute for sperm or whale oil. It is said to produce an equal quantity of light, to be quite as transparent and free from disagreeable odour, in addition to which it is not subject to freezing, having resisted the greatest degree of cold during the present season—say 6 degrees below zero. The yield of oils is said to be half a gallon to the bushel, without destroying the qualities of the grain for distillation.

Sweet Apple Bread.—Peel and quarter the sweet apples, put them into a pan, cover it with paste, bake them till quite soft, rub them through a coarse sieve, take the pulp thus obtained, knead in flour to a proper temper, putting in yeast and shortening sufficient.—*Me. Far.*

Wheat.—Several vessels arrived yesterday, with further supplies of this staff of life. At Philadelphia and Baltimore, the arrivals of wheat are large, and the sales every where small. As soon, however, as the mills are accessible, there will be an increased demand. A great deal of it makes excellent flour.—*Jou. of Com.*

Grains of whole pepper, put into a vessel in which cheese is kept, will drive away mites.

The following able and elaborate article is from the *American Quarterly Review*, for March, 1837.

1. *Journal of the American Institute, a Monthly Publication, devoted to the interests of Agriculture, Commerce, Manufactures, and the Arts; accompanied with public documents, sketches of natural history, and, occasionally, philosophical and literary essays.* Edited by a Committee, Members of the Institute. Vol. I. New York: 1837.
2. *The New England Farmer, and Gardener's Journal; containing essays, original and selected, relating to agriculture, and domestic economy, with the prices of country produce.* By Thomas G. Fessenden. Boston: 1837.
3. *Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, in a Course of Lectures for the Board of Agriculture.* By Sir Humphrey Davy, LL. D. London: 1814.

Agriculture, in its broadest sense, may be defined the cultivation of the earth; and it is probably the most ancient of all the arts. Adam was sent forth to till the ground, and that was the condition of his existence. The precise date and measure of agricultural improvement, which existed during the different early ages of the world, cannot be accurately determined, from a want of historical records. The Chaldeans, the Phœnicians, Egyptians, Persians, Athenians, and Romans, it is well known, practised agriculture with considerable success, and encouraged it among their people as an honorable employment: and the learned treatises upon the subject, which were written during the continuance of the Grecian and Roman rule, comprising the works of such men as Hesiod, Xenophon, Cato, Columella, Virgil, and Varro, almost rival in bulk the "many camel loads" of the Justinian age of the law. Who has not heard of Cincinnatus returning to his plough, after restoring the liberties of his country; or of Regulus, who requested to be recalled from Africa, lest his farm might suffer from his absence; or of the ancient Persian kings, who annually threw off their diadem, that they might eat with the husbandmen! The senators of Rome employed the intervals of their public duties in the cares of husbandry. The veneration for this employment was carried so far by the Egyptians, that they worshipped as gods, certain products of the soil, and those animals which were used in tillage.

We shall present a condensed sketch of the early history of Agriculture, though the question may be asked, Why, in this age of printing, when the world can scarcely contain the books which are written, we discuss a matter so dry and uninteresting? We enter but a single plea for justification,—the importance of the subject.

Agriculture was successfully exercised among the most civilized portions of the earth, until the reign of the Emperor Claudius, when it fell into neglect. The northern barbarians, who, after the reign of Constantine, overran Europe, cultivated by slaves only a small portion of the land near their habitations, and were content to roam over the vast deserts which their ravages had made, without any settled habits of industry. It is clear that, among these people, husbandry could receive but little attention. In 1748, an attempt was made to revive it, through the publication of a work in Florence by Crescenzio. The precise period in which agriculture was introduced into Britain is not known, although Julius Cæsar has alleged that it was practised by some colonists from Gaul, who had settled in the southern part, about one hundred years before the Roman invasion. Great improvements were brought about in this art, however, by the establishment of the Romans in that country, and it sunk only with the declension of the other arts. Vast inroads were made by the Picts and Scots upon the general prosperity of the Britons; and on the arrival of the Saxons, in 449, the disastrous wars which followed, actually drove the Britons from the fields which they had cultivated into barren regions.—But although the Britons had lost, in a great measure, the science of agriculture, they encouraged it by their laws, which provided certain privileges in favor of those who should cultivate the soil.

The Anglo-Saxons, upon their accession to Britain, imbibed a contempt for agriculture, and enacted by law that it should be followed only by women and slaves. These haughty warriors, were, however, soon obliged to pursue the art, when the Britons, whom they had before plundered of their subsistence, were driven from the kingdom. The Saxon princes divided their domains into two parts, the *inlands* and *outlands*.—The former were generally contiguous to the mansion of the proprietor, and were cultivated by his slaves for domestic purposes: the latter were more remote from the proprietary mansion, and were rented to the *ceorls* or farmers. In order to show the low state of agriculture at that time, we may state that the common price of an acre of fertile soil was about four English shillings, and in the year 1043, a quarter of wheat sold at about fifteen shillings, which was equal to seven or eight pounds sterling at the present time. A new era in agriculture was, however, introduced by the invasion of the Normans in 1066, and by the introduction of husbandmen from France, Flanders and Normandy, who purchased and cultivated farms.

Previously to the fifteenth century, agriculture had received but little aid from scientific research, but in the latter part of that period it had assumed the form of a compact and permanent science. At that time it derived important assistance from Fitzherbert, who wrote two treatises upon the subject. One was entitled the "Book of Husbandry," and appeared in 1534. The other was called the "Book of Surveying and Improvements," and was published in 1539. Fitzherbert seems to have studied the character of soils, and the laws of vegetation, with considerable industry, and his works abound with much elementary knowledge, but they are of course destitute of that philosophical accuracy which is founded upon the inductive method of Bacon, afterwards established.

During the year 1600, France made extraordinary efforts to bring the art of husbandry into vogue, and for that object several important works were published; but the *practice* of agriculture was more regarded by that nation, as well as the Flemings, than the mere publication of books, so that a knowledge of their principles could only be obtained by observation. In England, during the civil wars, husbandry received some temporary checks, but in the time of Hartlib it had grown to great perfection. The country gentlemen, who had been impoverished by these wars, became industrious, but they soon sank into idleness, and the whole business of agriculture gradually fell into the hands of the common farmers. Ireland was induced, by the writings of Blyth, to give up a wretched mode of agricultural practice which had long prevailed, and to adopt a more improved system, and as evidence of the fact, the transactions of the Dublin society for encouraging husbandry are cited as authority upon this subject. After the peace of Aix la Chapelle, the nations of Europe applied themselves with uncommon vigor to the science of agriculture, and societies were regularly organized for the promotion of this object, under the patronage of their several governments. In the year 1756, increased attention was given to the subject in France, and prize questions were annually proposed by the rural academies, particularly those of Lyons and Bordeaux. Russia has also made vigorous exertions to introduce into that country the most improved method of agriculture, through the patronage of the state, and it has been taught publicly in the Swedish, Danish and German Universities. Italy, Tuscany, Spain, Poland, Denmark, Japan, and China, have also bestowed marked attention upon the subject.

Notwitstanding the rapid advances which have been made in modern times in agricultural science, there is no doubt that Great Britain is far before the rest of the world in its practical application. Societies, with powerful influence, such as the Bath Society, the Royal Society, and the Society of Arts, have given their agency in aid of its progress. This forwardness on the part of Great Britain is doubtless owing somewhat to the genius of the people, but more, perhaps, to the general spirit of improvement which pervades that empire, and to the denseness of the population which makes it the great alternative to starvation. A modern writer upon "the progress and present state of agriculture," enters into an argument to show the advance of husbandry in England and Wales, by a computation of the increase of population in those countries, and the consequent increase of agricultural products necessary for their support. He traces the augmentation of agricultural industry to various causes. In the first place vast tracts of land have for many years been used as wastes, commons, and common fields, the former of which have been altogether uncultivated. These fields were sometimes ploughed, but the property in them was so intermixed and divided that this was done to very little effect. It is estimated that from the year 1760 to 1832, about six millions of acres of land have been enclosed by act of parliament, and that in this mode the produce of the soil has been increased from eight to ten fold. Another cause of agricultural improvement in these countries, is the fact of the substitution of green crops for fallow, and the introduction of fallow between successive corn crops, as well as the use of bone manure, and the better rotation of crops. This improvement throughout Great Britain has been extended to stock, as well as to arable husbandry, and this is demonstrated by the fact, that the average weight of cattle and sheep throughout the kingdom has been doubled since the year 1750. The high state of agriculture in England is a prominent feature which strikes the attention of the traveller to that country. Almost every section of earth seems to be devoted to this object, and the natural humidity of the climate keeps the vegetation at all times verdant. In fact, the soil is generally too moist

and low for cultivation, without the use of furrowing and draining. The country is divided into comparatively small fields, (unlike the mighty solitudes which the American wilderness stretches out before the eye,) broken only by the stately mansions and grounds of the nobility and gentry, and surrounded

> "By hedge-row elms on hillocks green,
> Right against the eastern gate,
> Where the great sun begins his state
> Robed in flames and amber light,
> The clouds in thousand liveries dight,
> While the ploughman near at hand
> Whistles o'er the furrowed land,
> And the milkmaid singeth blithe,
> And the mower whets his scythe,
> And every shepherd tells his tale,
> Under the hawthorn in the dale."

It cannot be denied that other countries are also far behind the English in the quality of the stock, the blood and strength of their horses and cattle, and even dogs, owing doubtless, to the extraordinary pains taken in breeding. The horses which one may daily see in the Regent's Park, would excite the emulation of our most accomplished gentlemen of the turf, and the display of fat sheep at Smithfield would almost startle the good people of Brighton.

The United States, in the immense magnitude and fertility of their domain, embracing a great variety of soil and climate, and affording growth to the products of the colder as well as tropical regions, afford a wide and rich field for agricultural science. The freedom of our government, the cheapness of the soil, the abolition of the laws of primogeniture and the statutes of distribution, which one of our most distinguished jurists* has declared are the only just agrarian laws, furnish ample means and motives to agricultural labor.—We have no unjust imposition of taxes, like those which limit a portion of the hard-working laborers of Ireland to three potatoes a day. Here, a man with common industry, may keep himself a freeman upon his own soil, and far from want, with nothing above him but "God and the laws."

The Indians, before the emigration of our forefathers, practiced agriculture, but it was limited with them to small corn fields which they cultivated in their migratory expeditions through the wilderness. It seems to be essential to the progress of agricultural industry, that the rights of *meum* and *tuum* should be clearly defined, and that the husbandman should possess an absolute or qualified property in the soil. To this fact may be attributed the want of success which attended the agricultural labors of our ancestors. That they acquired a subsistence from the earth there can be no doubt, but it could hardly be expected, that a colony flying from persecution and establishing itself in dense forests could make any very marked advances in this art. The colonists had not the implements of husbandry, or the leisure necessary for its cultivation. Their time was occupied in laying the foundations of a new social system, and in repelling the attacks of the savages. The most approved modes of practice had not then been completely developed, and the utensils of the art had not been invented in those commodious forms which have so much facilitated agricultural labor in our own day. Obstacles to the success of the art were subsequently presented in the outbreaking of the American revolution. The disasters springing from that event which were felt throughout every section of the country, called upon the people to exercise the arts of war, rather than those of peace, and they were therefore compelled to strap their muskets upon their backs while they were guiding the plough. When, however, the storm of the revolution blew over, the energies of the people quietly sank down into the right channels, and since that period the business of husbandry has been gradually advancing in this country.

* Mr Justice Story.

The aid of science to the arts, which may be deemed a prominent characteristic of the present age, is no where more strongly exhibited than in the progress of husbandry. Chemistry, botany, geology, even natural philosophy, have all contributed to this work. The composition of the different species of soil, and their capacity for producing the different kinds of vegetation may be easily ascertained by chemical analysis. To understand rightly the proper food of plants, the varieties of vegetables necessary to be raised for the amelioration of the soil, and also the different kinds of manures and composts adapted to the several kinds of land, requires a minute philosophical investigation. The soil is frequently barren in a great degree, and there is no mode of ascertaining the *causes* but by chemical tests. If, for example, the salts of iron are discovered in the soil, they may be decomposed by lime; or if there is an excess of silicious sand, this may be remedied by the application of calcareous matter; if of vegetable matter, by liming and burning; or if there is a deficiency in this respect, it may be supplied by manure. In fact the whole structure of organic matter is dependent upon physical laws, and it is only by ascertaining its chemical constitution that we can act upon it agriculturally with full success.

The advantages of agricultural chemistry are, moreover, demonstrated in the practice of the rotation of crops. The benefit of this practice consists in keeping the soil always in strength, and at the same time in drawing from it all the profit which is practicable. It is well known that different plants produce different effects upon the soil, some tending to rob it of its strength, and others to act gently upon it; some to loosen, and others to bind. Hence it is necessary to good husbandry, that a careful examination should be made into the chemical combination of the different plants, and this is the only mode in which crops can be properly alternated. A merely theoretic agriculturist, doubtless, would be unable to cultivate the soil with full success, but the farmer, it is obvious, would practise husbandry with far greater advantage if he could combine a knowledge of the principles of the science with an experimental practice of the art. The design, and the only design of agricultural chemistry, is to discover improved modes of cultivation. This may be done most effectually, by experimenting upon those elements which constitute the soil, and upon those causes which produce the growth of vegetation. The soil, as well as the vegetation which it produces, contains a number of chemical constituents, which have been accurately analysed, and it is through the agency of the unerring principles of science, that a knowledge of the causes of its barrenness can be obtained, and also the proper means of its fertilization.

On this foundation has been erected the work of Sir Humphrey Davy, whose title we have prefixed to this article. The course of lectures on Agricultural Chemistry was delivered during ten successive years from 1802, before the British Board of Agriculture. The work was published at their request, and dedicated to that body. We have before us the London edition, issued in 1814, but the volume has been reprinted in this country, and is already embodied into the agricultural literature of our republic. It embraces eight lectures, with an appendix, containing "an account of the results of experiments on the produce and nutritive qualities of different grasses, and other plants used as the food of animals, instituted by John, Duke of Bedford." These lectures embrace all that may be supposed connected with the application of chemistry to agriculture. The most prominent subjects treated of in the work are "the general powers of matter which influence vegetables;" the constitution of soils; the nature of the atmosphere, and its influence upon vegetables; animal, vegetable and mineral manures; and the chemical effect of the different modes of improving lands. These lectures are written in a clear and vigorous style, and we possess an ample voucher for the accuracy of the facts and principles they embody, in the reputation of their author as the first chemist of his age. Our limits forbid us from entering into an exhibition of the valuable facts contained in this volume, but we commend it to all the reading classes of the community, as it embraces knowledge of great importance to the man of science, the theoretical agriculturist, and the practical farmer. We subjoin the following remarks from the introduction—which contains a syllabus of the course—exhibiting the phenomena of vegetation:

"The phenomena of vegetation must be considered as an important branch of the science of organized nature; but, although exalted above inorganic matter, vegetables are yet, in a great measure, dependent for their existence upon its laws. They receive their nourishment from the external elements; they assimilate it by means of peculiar organs; and it is by examining their physical and chemical constitution, and the substances and powers which act upon them, and the modifications which they undergo, that the scientific principles of agricultural chemistry are obtained.

"According to these ideas, it is evident that the study ought to be commenced by some general enquiries into the composition and nature of material bodies, and the laws of their changes. The surface of the earth, the atmosphere, and the water deposited from it, must either together or separately afford all the principles concerned in vegetation, and it is only by examining the chemical nature of these principles that we are capable of discovering what is the food of plants, and the manner in which this food is supplied and prepared for their nourishment. The principles of the constitution of bodies, consequently, will form the first subject for our consideration.

(To be continued.)

Hogs.—Mr Jesse Farwell of Charlestown, N. Hampshire, lately slaughtered two swine, eighteen months old, one of which weighed five hundred and sixtyeight, and the other five hundred and fortysix pounds—both one thousand fourteen pounds. He killed a couple sometime since whose aggregate weight was 1400 lbs.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1837.

MARL.—It would be well if every cultivator was aware of the important fact, that whoever finds marl, finds a mine of great value. It is one of the best and most general manures in nature; proper for all soils and all crops. Marl is usually found under moss or peat, in low, sunken lands, and especially nigh the sea or large rivers. It has been sometimes discovered by ant hills, as those insects bring up small pieces of shells from their holes. It may be known by the application of a mineral acid, and even good vinegar will cause an effervescence.

"To find the composition of a marl, pour a few ounces of diluted muriatic acid into a Florence flask; place them in a scale and let them be balanced: then reduce a few ounces of this dry marl to powder; and let this powder be carefully weighed, and gradually thrown into the flask, until after repeated additions, no farther effervescence is perceived. Let the remainder of the powdered marl be weighed, by which the quantity projected will be known. Let the balance then be restored. The difference of weight between the quantity projected and that requisite to restore the balance, will show the weight of air lost during the effervescence. [That air proceeds from calcareous earth alone, which contains fortyfour per cent. of this carbonic acid air. Suppose five hundred grains of marl lose fortyfour grains by the escape of air, then that marl contained one hundred grains, or one fifth part of the whole weight of lime stone.—T. C.] If the loss amount to twenty or twentyfive per cent. of the quantity of marl projected, the marl essayed is calcareous, or marl rich in calcareous earth. Clayey marls, or those in which the argillacous ingredient prevails, lose only eight or ten per cent. of their weight by this treatment, and sandy marls about the same proportion. The presence of much argillaceous earth may be judged by drying the marl, after being washed with spirit of salt, when it will harden and form a brick."—*Domestic Encyclopedia.*

WORKING OXEN.—We are told that laboring cattle will perform their spring work with more vigor and less apparent fatigue, if they are fed two or three times a day with a few ears of Indian corn. Some, however, prefer giving them small quantities of raw potatoes, which are said to be more cooling than corn, and to answer the purpose of physic as well as that of food. Perhaps it may be well to change their diet occasionally, from the roots to the grain; and these, with regular meals of good English hay, will, in ordinary cases, be sure to keep them in good working order.

MUSTARD SEED.—The common mustard seed, which grows with very little cultivation, and is easily gathered and cleaned by those farmers, who have floors for threshing wheat or flax seed,—is worth money. Mr Cobbett makes the following remarks on this article:—"Why buy mustard, when you can grow it in your garden? The stuff you buy is half drugs, and injurious to health. A yard square of ground, sown with common mustard, the crop of which you would grind for use, in a little mustard mill as you wanted it, would save you some money, and probably save your life. Your mustard should look brown instead of yellow; and as to the taste, the real mustard has certainly a much better than that of the drugs and flour, which go under the name of mustard. Let every one try it, and I am sure he will never use the drugs again. The drugs, if you take them freely, leaves a burning at the pit of your stomach, which the real mustard does not."

PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—We have received a list, issued by the Horticultural Society established in Philadelphia, offering premiums for culinary vegetables, fruit and flowers, for 1837, to the amount of about *three hundred and fifty dollars*. "The object of the Society, in offering these premiums, is simply to excite a spirit of emulation among cultivators, to improve the varieties of fruits and vegetables, and disseminate a knowledge of the art of gardening." And with such munificence and zeal on the part of the Society, they cannot fail to realize that object. Great good will be accomplished by these premiums. "The spirit of emulation among cultivators," is a revolutionizing spirit, and radical in its effects. It will make the garden of Pennsylvania beautiful beyond comparison, and fills her barren places with vernal beauty.

"In quick succession
Various crops will crown the garden's fields."

Such will be the fruits of a spirit of emulation. Agricultural and Horticultural pursuits, fostered by such encouragement, and aided by knowledge and scientific industry. Where is the Massachusetts Society, with her liberal list of premiums? Let not Pennsylvania outstrip her in this good work.

In addition to the above, a premium of Five Hundred Dollars is offered in the following terms:

BLIGHT IN PEAR TREES.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, anxious to promote the discovery of a preventive for the disease usually termed *blight* in Pear Trees, offers a premium of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS, to be paid the person who shall discover and make public, an effectual means of preventing its attack. The premium not to be awarded until after the expiration of three years from the publication of the preventive, nor until the Society shall be fully satisfied of its efficacy. Communications on the subject may be addressed per mail to DAVID LANDRETH, Cor. Sec. Philadelphia.

MISTAKE CORRECTED.—The Dedham Patriot of the 6th inst., contains a quotation from Fessenden's Silk Manual, which is attributed to the Editor. But the Editor's notice is a distinct article, immediately following the "*Publisher's Notice*," from which the Patriot selected a specimen of our supposed address on bidding adieu to the Manual. The passage quoted, was written by Mr CHARLES BOSSON, a young gentlemen, who is interested in the concerns of the office of the N. E. Farmer, and has on other occasions, proved an able coadjutor to the *Editor of the N. E. Farmer.*

☞ The Boston Courier says that the prices for all descriptions of Flour, continue to decline rapidly. The arrivals of southern have been large, and holders have found it very difficult to make sales of any magnitude, as purchasers are looking for much lower prices, and take only what they want for immediate use.

☞ AGRICULTURE.—We refer our readers to an excellent article on this subject, commenced on page 316 of this paper, and extracted from the *American Quarterly Review*, for which Weeks, Jordan & Co., 121 Washington St., are Agents.

APPLE PORK.—*Friend Holmes*:—I here give an account of a small apple porker of 1836. He was fifteen months old; of the Newbury white and Bedford breed; weighed 312 lbs. The leaves weighed 22 1-2 pounds; the *Roundabout* weighed 12 1-2 pounds; head 21 1-4 lbs.; bone of the head 3 1-4 lbs.; feet and legs 8 3-4 lbs. I have heretofore given my method of fattening.

Said pig was weaned upon apples, and kept upon a very small quantity of grass, with two quarts of raw potatoes per day through the summer. I have no doubt that we can make our hogs as large and as fat upon apples as any thing else, only it requires longer time than it would to fatten them upon corn. We cannot spare the corn, especially during the present season, therefore we use that which will yield the greatest profit. I have been thus particular in the weight of the hog, in order to ascertain the comparative weight of offal, and I know of no other way to come at the facts, except by weight and measure. I also wish that other farmers would communicate the results of their experiments in the Farmer, that the public may know what is the most economical method to pursue, for I think we are rather deficient in actual experiments, although we have plenty of theories. PAUL WINGATE.

Hallowell, 3d month, 18th.

N. B. Perhaps it would be well to just mention that the pork was of uniform thickness, generally about 3 inches; in the very thickest parts it was four inches.—*Maine Far.*

BOSTON PIGGERY.—About six miles from the city, in West Cambridge, is the Boston Piggery. At least 700 hogs are here constantly kept in pork condition, *entirely* on the offal from the dwelling houses in Boston, every one of which is visited in turn by the city carts. The offal increases, and the contractor calculates that it will be sufficient hereafter to fatten 1000 hogs.—He now receives four cart loads a day, and pays the city $3,500 a year, or about $2,75 a load. He receives $3 a day for what the hogs leave. The city Treasury loses $1000 a year by the operation, and it is said the man makes three times that sum. The pig pen is an enclosure of fifteen acres, with places of shelter from the storm. As the hogs attain their size, they are slaughtered on the spot—the fat barrelled up, and the lean sold in the city. According to the rule in the country, the contractor should furnish each family in the city, once a year with a spare-rib, for the food furnished the piggery.—*Springfield Repub.*

EFFECT OF CARPETS.—A German traveller complains of the universal custom of covering floors with carpets in England. He thinks they occasion diseases of the lungs. "Observe," says he, "a beam of light which falls into a carpeted room, and you see the whole atmosphere loaded with numberless minute hairs, which retain all their own characteristics when inhaled, and must therefore act as foreign bodies. The English, eager admirers of cleanliness though they be, constantly breathe this air, rendered impure by these millions of little shreds mechanically suspended in it! It is almost impossible that this should remain without injurious consequences, more particularly where there exists a morbid tendency in the air passages."

MASS. LEGISLATURE.—The resolve for an Agricultural Survey of the Commonwealth, was taken up in the orders of the day: the amendment submitted by Mr Turner was rejected—yeas six, nays twentythree.—The resolve was then read again, and on motion of Mr Fairbanks, the question on its passage was taken by yeas and nays, and determined in the affirmative—yeas 26, nays 3. So said resolve passed to be engrossed in concurrence.

A Busy Body.—A down east Editor, says, "I have to edit my paper, keep all my books for the paper and other business, do all my out-door business, put up all orders for goods, do all my correspondence, generally direct my papers, wait upon customers, have the care of my printing office, saw and split my wood, make my fires, feed my hens, instruct my children, tend the babies, besides other plans and other business. With all this, and rigid economy, I hope to gain something, when *I get a good start.*"

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending April 8.

April, 1837.	7, A. M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Sunday,	30	39	30	S. W.
Monday,	24	48	40	E.
Tuesday,	30	40	36	N. W.
Wednesday,	26	42	38	N.
Thursday,	34	50	44	N.
Friday,	30	56	44	N.
Saturday,	40	60	46	E .

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Society will be held at their Hall in Cornhill on Saturday next at 11 o'clock.

E. WESTON, Jr.
Recording Sec'y.

The large collection of kitchen garden seeds, recently received from Sicily, will be distributed among the members, at the above time. April 12.

MULBERRY TREES AND SEED AT AUCTION.

By J. L. CUNNINGHAM,

Will be sold at (Office corner of Milk and Federal Streets) At Public Auction without reserve. Four thousand French Mulberry Trees, furnished to Captain Hurd, of ship Switzerland as a special favor, as the best kind for cultivation in France, the sale to take place on the 19th instant at 11 o'clock. Also, about ninety ounces of the choicest kind of Mulberry Seed, furnished by the same gentleman, and warranted to be fresh, new seed, of the last season's growth. It has been tried and found to be perfectly good. Ap. 12

FRENCH BLUES.

We have just received a few bushels of Potatoes with the above name, raised in Maine. They are very large size, productive, and good eating JOS BRECK & CO.
April 12 New England Farmer Office.

AMERICAN QUARTERLY.

Wanted, No. 59 of the American Quarterly Review, published by Wells & Lilly. 1824, for which a liberal price will be paid. Send by mail, or otherwise to Jos. Breck & Co
April 12 New England Farmer Office.

JOBBING GARDENER.

William Sheridan would respectfully inform his friends and the public that he will commence jobbing in Gardens, by the day or by the contract. W. S. will endeavor to give satisfaction to all those who may favor him with anything in his line, to the extent of his power and ability.

N. B. All orders left at the store of Messrs Worcester & Pierce, corner of Court and Tremont streets, or at his residence, No 2 Theatre Alley, Boston. will be promptly and faithfully attended to. March 22.

FRUIT TREES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. offer for sale 150 Standard Pear Trees of extra large size, of the choicest kinds including the Dutchess d' Angouleme, and many other fine varieties, and some entirely new.

Also, 50 Dwarfs on Quince stocks. The whole of these trees will come immediately into bearing, and are well worthy the attention of the horticulturist. Price $1 to $2 each. A few scions can be furnished if applied for soon.

Also, 150 Plum trees of superior kinds. Price from 50 cts. to $1,00 each.

100 Grape Vines in assortments of twenty, selected for the table, of superior kinds.

All the above trees and vines were imported by one of our first horticulturists, from France; and are in the finest order.

All orders for trees or shrubs will meet with prompt attention.

Just received at the New England Seed Store a fine collection of Double Dahlia Roots.

Also, Gladiolus psittacina; Double Tuberose, striped leaved do. Amaryllis formosissima, and Tiger flowers.
April 5.

NURSERY OF WILLIAM KENRICK.

Nonantum Hill in Newton.

30,000 Morus Multicaulis, or true Chinese Mulberry Trees, can yet be supplied, wholesale or retail.

1,000 Pears of new Flemish and other finest kinds. Pears on Quince stocks, thrifty and handsome, these will bear early and abundantly.

3,000 Plums—Also selections of all other hardy fruits from the first rate sources and the finest varieties known.

Ornamental trees, shrubs and roses. Also Herbaceous flowering plants of the most beautiful varieties including Pœonies, and Double Dahlias.

Address by mail, post paid, to William Kenrick, Newton, Mass. near Boston. Trees and plants when ordered, will be carefully selected, and labelled, and packed in the best style, and duly forwarded from Boston by land or sea. Trasportation gratis to the city. Priced Catalogues will be sent to all who apply.
March 29.

SILK WORM EGGS.

Those who are about attending to the rearing of the Silk Worm, are informed that the subscriber has received from the south of France, a few ounces of the Eggs in very fine order; price $10 per ounce, which it is believed is very much lower than they have ever before been offered, it being necessary in the warm and confined premises of John Street, to get them off, otherwise *they will set up business for themselves.* One ounce numbers 5000 eggs—can be forwarded per mail packed between a small leaf of wadding, or if by water conveyance in a small tin box.

Also, received from France, 5000 Morus Multicaulis Trees, 2 years old, price $20 per hundred, in prime order.

GEO. C. THORBURN, 11 John Street.
New York, March 29. 3t

BRIGHTON NURSERIES.

For sale, 20,000 Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry Plants, warranted the true and genuine kind. Orders addressed (by mail) to Messrs. WINSHIP, Brighton, Mass., for Mulberry, Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennials, &c &c. that are cultivated in any Nurseries in the United States, with a first rate collection of Green House Plants, will receive prompt attention, and, if required, forwarded to any part of the Union.
Brighton, Jan. 18, 1837.

MOUBRAY ON POULTRY, &c.

Moubray on Breeding, Rearing and Fattening all kinds of Poultry, Cows, Swine, and other Domestic Animals. Second American from the sixth London Edition. Adapted to the Soil, Climate and Culture of the United States. By Thomas G. Fessenden, Editor of the N. E. Farmer, New American Gardener, Complete Farmer, &c.

This book, published by Joseph Breck & Co. Boston, and G. C. Thorburn, New York, is for sale at the respective establishments of those Gentlemen. The first edition of this useful book had a rapid sale, and met with a favorable reception It has been carefully revised, and new and original information relative to its topics have been diligently sought and inserted in various parts of the Treatise.
March 15, 1837.

WANTED.

A Hive of Bees, warranted thrifty and free from moths, is wanted by an individual in this city. Any person having one of the most approved construction which they wish to dispose of, will please leave a line addressed to F. H. B. naming price, &c. at this office.
March 29. 3t

WANTED TO HIRE,

A small farm with convenient house and barn, consisting of from 15 to 20 acres of land, and situated ten or fifteen miles from Boston. Any one having such a place will find a good tenant by addressing a letter, stating terms, &c. to Z. B. and leaving the same at the office of the Boston Daily Courier.
April 5. 3t

WANTED.

A Gardener well acquainted with the cultivation of flowers, and the management of hot beds, to go 35 miles from Boston, apply at this Office.
March 22.

WANTED,

A Gardener — who understands his business, and is capable of taking charge of a greenhouse and garden. A married man would be preferred,— good recommendations will be required. E. HERSY DERBY.
South Salem, March 8, 1837.

BREMEN GEESE.

Bremen and Wild Geese for sale by JOHN PARKNISON, Back street, Roxbury. March 15.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY

			FROM	TO
Apples,		barrel	1 75	2 25
Beans, white,		bushel	2 50	3 00
Beef, mess,		barrel	15 50	16 50
No. 1.		"	13 00	13 75
prime,		"	9 37	10 00
Beeswax, (American)		pound	31	33
Cheese, new milk,		"	10	12
Feathers, northern, geese,		"	54	60
southern, geese,		"	54	60
		"		9 12
Flax, American,		quintal	3 37	3 50
Fish, Cod,		barrel	10 87	11 00
Flour, Genesee, cash		"	10 25	10 62
Baltimore, Howard street,		"	9 75	10 25
Baltimore, wharf,		"	10 00	10 25
Alexandria,		bushel	1 12	1 20
Grain, Corn, northern yellow		"	1 05	1 07
southern flat yellow		"	1 00	1 12
white,		"	1 50	1 75
Rye, northern,		"	1 10	1 25
Barley,		"	65	70
Oats, northern, (prime)			22 50	
Hay, best English, per ton of 2000 lbs		"	15 00	16 00
hard pressed,		gallon	52	55
Honey,		pound	7	8
Hops, 1st quality		"	5	6
2d quality		"	14	15
Lard, Boston, 1st sort,		"	14	15
southern, 1st sort,		"	30	32
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,		"	26	28
do country do.		"	27	29
Baltimore city do.		"		
do. dry hide		"	24	26
New York red, light,		"	21	23
Boston do. slaughter,		"	19	21
do. light,		cask	1 10	1 14
Lime, best sort,		barrel	10 00	10 50
Mackerel, No. 1, new,		cask	3 75	3 25
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.		barrel	30 00	31 00
Pork, Mass. inspect. extra clear,		"	27 00	29 00
clear from other States		"		
Mess,		bushel	2 87	3 12
Seeds, Herd's Grass,		"	65	70
Red Top,		"	2 50	2 75
Hemp,		pound	15	16
Red Clover, northern		"	14	15
Southern Clover,		bushel	2 75	4 00
Silk Cocoons, (American)		lb.	12	14
Tallow, tried,		pr. M.	3 50	4 00
Teazles, 1st sort,		pound	70	75
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,		"	65	70
American, full blood, washed,		"	60	65
do. 3-4ths do.		"	55	58
do. 1-2 do.		"	45	50
do. 1-4 and common				
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,		"	60	65
1st Lambs,		"	55	60
2d do.		"	45	48
3d do,		"	30	35
Southern pulled wool is generally 5 cts. less per lb.				

PROVISION MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

Hams, northern,	pound	15	16
southern, and western,	"	13	14
Pork, whole hogs,	"	10	13
Poultry,	"	18	19
Butter, (tub)	"	18	22
lump	"	20	25
Eggs,	dozen	25	
Potatoes,	bushel	75	1 00
Cider,	barrel		

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, April, 10, 1837.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 290 Beef Cattle, 40 pairs Working Oxen, 15 Cows and Calves, 730 Sheep and 425 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Nearly all the Beef Cattle were sold by the "lump," a very few only were sold in the manner heretofore practised; we shall only state that last weeks prices were fully supported.

Working Oxen.—We notice sales at $65, $70, $85, $95, $105, $108, $115, and $130.

Cows and Calves.—Sales were noticed at $28, $32, $35, 40, and 43.

Sheep.—Rather dull, lots were taken at $4 25, $5 50, $6 00, $7 25 and $10 75.

Swine.—Lots to peddle were taken at at 10 1-2 for sows and 11 1-2 for barrows. At retail 12 and 13.

POETRY.

THE COMMON LOT.

BY MONTGOMERY.

Once in the flight of ages past
There lived a man — and *who* was he?
Mortal! howe'er thy lot be cast,
That man resembled thee!

Unknown the regions of his birth,
The land in which he died unknown,
His name hath perished from the earth,
This truth survives alone —

That joy, and grief, and hope, and fear,
Alternate triumph in his breast,
His bliss and wo, a smile, a tear!
Oblivion hides the rest.

The bounding pulse, the languid limb,
The changing spirit's rise and fall,
We know that these were felt by him,
For *these* are felt by all.

He suffered — but his pangs are o'er,
Enjoyed — but his delights are fled,
Had friends — his friends are now no more,
And foes — his foes are dead.

He loved — but whom he loved, the grave
Hath lost in its unconscious womb:
O she was fair! but nought could save
Her beauty from the tomb.

The rolling seasons, day and night,
Sun, moon and stars, the earth and main,
Ere while his portion, life and light,
To him exist — in vain.

He saw whatever thou hast seen,
Encountered all that troubles thee,
He was — whatever thou hast been,
He is — what thou shalt be!

The clouds and sunbeams o'er his eye
That once their shade and glory threw,
Have left in yonder silent sky
No vestige where they flew!

The annals of the human race,
Their ruin since the world began,
Of him afford no other trace
Than this — THERE LIVED A MAN.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

AN EXCELLENT BOOK.

SACRED MUSIC.—Historians, who have given us the annals of antiquity, inform that Lycurgus, the famous lawgiver, who formed a celebrated specimen of *Codification* for the Lacedemonians, was particularly solicitous to introduce, improve and modify superior music for the purpose of improving not only the taste, but the minds and morals of the republic for whom his laws were constructed. We learn that there was something peculiar as well as excellent in the Spartan songs, whether composed to be sung on public occasions or at private assemblages; to brighten the chain of social intercourse, or to nerve the arm and fortify the heart of the warrior for martial onset.

Likewise, in modern times, every nation has its popular and characteristic music. Englishmen, Scotchmen, Italians, Germans, Frenchmen, Swiss, &c., have their national airs, sacred, secular, amatory, martial, pathetic, &c., which they cherish with a patriotic feeling, forming the strongest ligature of national communities. New England has also its peculiar melodies, with their appropriate expression, as strongly marked as any trait in the distinctive qualities of the pilgrims.—These are to be found in the works of Billings, Holden, Holyoke, Read, French and others, and deserve to be cherished with as much care as the memory of the sages and heroes to whom, under Providence, we are indebted for the blessings consequent on American Independence. We would almost as soon consent to part with our national liberty, as with our New England psalm tunes, which appear to us to be interwoven with our political identity as a great, free and independent nation.

Impressed with these ideas, we were pleased to learn that there existed in this city, an association called the Boston Billings and Holden Society. We were also highly flattered on receiving an invitation to become a member of said society, and to be presented with a book, published under their patronage, entitled THE BILLINGS AND HOLDEN COLLECTION OF ANCIENT PSALMODY, &c.—The following extracts from the Advertisement to the book before us, gives a lucid explanation of the views of its publishers.

"This compilation of Ancient Sacred Music, made under the patronage of the Boston Billings and Holden Society, has been selected with great care by a committee of 17 gentlemen, comprising professors, teachers, amateurs, and others. Before this selection was undertaken, there appeared to be a very general wish that there should be a selection of tunes from ancient American and European authors, with the music and words as originally published; that they might not only be rescued from oblivion, but again presented to the public in their original form. To gratify the wishes of the community, this book was undertaken. The mutilated state of the books from which many of these tunes have been copied, some of them having been published more than half a century, has rendered the duty very arduous, and has compelled the committee to copy some of them from works other than the original.

* * * * *

"These tunes must be published as originally written, or the elderly and middle aged must be deprived of the satisfaction and delight they have heretofore experienced. Who ever witnessed their performance in the family circle, when the whole could unite, that did not have his affections moved, his reverence heightened towards that being, who alone is worthy of all adoration."

Signed, DANIEL COPELAND, *Chairman.*

It was a saying of one of the sages of antiquity that, "if he could make the songs of a Commonwealth, he cared but little who made the laws, for his ballads would control in despite of legislation." Without adopting that sentiment to its full extent, we still may be sure that music, and particularly psalmody has an influence in forming the minds, and improving the morals of civil and social man to a degree far beyond what has ever been attributed to such agency by philosophers or politicians.

AN INDIAN'S JOKE.—In a time of Indian troubles a friendly Indian visited the house of Governer Jenks, of Rhode Island, when the governor took occasion to request him, if any strange Indian should come to his wigwam, to let him know it. This the Indian promised to do, and the governor told him that if he should give him such information, he would give him a mug of flip. Some time after the Indian came again, and on meeting the governor said, "Well, Mr gubernor, strange Indian come to my house last." "Ah," says the governor, "what did he say?" "He no speak," replied the Indian. "What, not speak at all?" inquired the governor. "No, he no speak at all." "That looks suspicious," said his excellency, and inquired if he were there still. Being told that he was, the governor ordered the promised mug of flip. When this was disposed of, and the Indian was about to depart, he mildly said, "Mr gubernor, my squaw have child last night;" and the governor finding the strange Indian was a new born pappoose, was glad to find there was no cause of alarm.

FOR SALE.

A small Farm in the vicinity of Boston, containing 30 or 40 acres of good tillage land, all under good cultivation with a great variety of fruit of the best kind. there is a good well built dwelling house, a large stable, carriage house, barn, granary, ice house and other out buildings. For further information enquire at this Office.
March 22. istf

MORUS MULTICAULIS.

Joseph Davenport offers for sale 50,000 plants of the true Chinese Mulberry or Morus Multicaulis. Trees will be carefully packed and forwarded as early as desired. Orders must be sent to Colerain, Mass. till the 15th March, after which time to Hartford, Conn. All inquiries will be attended to at his plantation, 5 miles South West of the city.
Early orders only will be supplied, as arrangements will be made to use all not called for soon.
Colerain, Jan. 1837. Feb. 1.

SEED POTATOES.

For Sale at the New England Seed Store, a few Bushels of Forty Fold Potatoes, a superior and prolific variety.
St. Helena Potatoes.
Early Hill Potatoes, the best early potato in the Market.
March 22.- 3w

PLUM TREES, GRAPE VINES, &c.

500 Plum trees of the most approved kinds and extra size, 200 Quince trees of good size many of them have borne fruit, 1500 Isabella grape from 5 to 15 feet high. 1000 Catawba. Bland's & Pond's seedling extra size in bearing state, chasselas Sweet Water, Black Hamburgh, &c, 10,000 roots Giant Asparagus, 5000 Wilmot's early Rhubarb or Pie Plant, lately introduced, and a good assortment of Gooseberries and Roses of different kinds.
All orders left at this office, or at Messrs Sawyer & Pond's, 25 Broad street, and with the subscriber Cambridge Port, will meet with immediate attention. SAMUEL POND.
March 15.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

Is published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum, payable at the end of the year — but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing, are entitled to a deduction of fifty cents.

☞ No paper will be sent to a distance without payment being made in advance.

AGENTS.

New York—G. C. THORBURN, 11 John-street.
Fluzhing, N. Y.—WM. PRINCE & SONS, Prop. Lin. Bot. Gar.
Albany—WM. THORBURN, 347 Market-street.
Philadelphia—D. & C. LANDRETH, 85 Chesnut-street.
Baltimore—Publisher of American Farmer.
Cincinnati—S. C. PARKHURST, 23 Lower Market-street.
Middlebury, Vt.—WIGHT CHAPMAN, Merchant.
Taunton, Mass.—SAM'L O. DUNBAR, Bookseller.
Hartford—GOODWIN & Co. Booksellers.
Newburyport—EBENEZER STEDMAN, Bookseller.
Portsmouth, N. H.—JOHN W. FOSTER, Bookseller.
Woodstock, Vt.—J. A. PRATT.
Brattleboro'—JOS. STEEN, Bookseller.
Bangor, Me.—WM. MANN, Druggist, and WM. B. HARLOW,
Halifax, N. S.—E. BROWN, Esq.
Louisville—SAMUEL COOPER, Bullit Street.
St. Louis—H. L. HOFFMAN, and WILLIS & STEVENS.

PRINTED BY
TUTTLE, DENNETT & CHISHOLM.
School Street.

ORDERS FOR PRINTING RECEIVED BY THE PUBLISHERS.